

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07

LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 AID-05 /043 W  
----- 071036

R 310834Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7866

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 2122

ADDIS FOR CALDWELL, PARIS FOR CONDON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ELAB, MA

SUBJ: AFRO-AMERICAN LABOR CENTER AID FOR FMM

REF: A) STATE 279262 B) ADDIS ABABA 14113 C) TANA 2055

1. EMB BELIEVES THAT GOMR IS LIKELY TO BECOME AWARE OF ANY US GRANT WHICH THEREBY WOULD SERIOUSLY HARM FMM FOR FOLLOWING REASONS:

- A) GOMR SUSPICIOUS OF ANY FOREIGN MEDLING IN MADAGASCAR,
- B) RECENT REVELATIONS RE USE OF COVERT U.S. FUNDS WOULD TANIT FMM WHEN AND IF GRANT BECOMES PUBLIC, AND
- C) PRIVATE KNOWLEDGE OF GRANT MIGHT JEOPARDIZE FMM INFLUENCE IF AND WHEN MALAGASY UNIONS ARE MERGED.

2. EMB AGREES WITH REGIONAL LABOR ATTACHE CALDWELL THAT VIABILITY OF FMM DOUBTFUL EVEN WITHOUT MERGER (PARA 6 REF B). IF GRANT WERE MADE, FMM MAY NOT BE ABLE TO SURVIVE FINANCIALLY. FOR EXAMPLE FMM SEC GEN CHARLES RANDRIANATORO INDICATED TO EMBOFF RECENTLY THAT FMM NEEDS ABOUT \$10,000 PER YEAR AND THAT THEY ARE BEING THREATENED WITH EVICTION FROM THEIR QUARTERS FOR FAILURE TO PAY RENT.

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3. TRADE UNION MERGER MAY VERY WELL TURN OUT TO BE A GOVERNMENT

ATTEMPT TO UTILIZE WORKERS AS (A) MAJOR POLITICAL FORCE, OR  
(B) AT A MINIMUM, TO GIVE FISEMA DOMINANT ROLE IN TRADE UNION  
MOVEMENT. AS REPORTED REF C, FMM SUPPORTED "YES" IN DEC. 21  
REFERENDUM, WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN SIGNAL TO GOMR THAT FMM BACKS  
SINGLE UNION CONCEPT. RANDIANATORO TOLD EMBOFF THAT SUPPORT FOR  
"YES" VOTE DID NOT REALLY REPRESENT FMM SENTIMENT BUT WAS GIVEN  
TO PROVIDE THE UNION, HOPEFULLY, FAVORABLE TREATMENT FROM NEW  
GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING RATSIRAKA'S INEVITABLE VICTORY. WE DO NOT  
YET KNOW IF AND WHEN MERGER WILL TAKE PLACE.

4. ALTHOUGH CALDWELL TOLD RANDRIANATORO IN AUGUST THAT CHANNELING  
FUNDS THROUGH EMB WAS IMPOSSIBLE, LATTER MADE SAME PITCH TO EMB-  
OFF IN DEC.

5. IF AALC STILL EAGER TO MAKE GRANT, EMB SUGGESTS THAT FUNDS  
BE CHanneled THROUGH FRENCH FO SINCE FO HAD PREVIOUSLY SUPPORTED  
FMM FINANCIALLY. THEREFORE, SOURCE OF FUNDS WOULD NOT BE NEW.  
AS ANOTHER POSSIBLE SOURCE OF FUNDS, FMM LEADER MENTIONED IN-  
STITUT SYNDICAL DE COOPERATION, 47 BLVD. GARIBALDI, 75015, PARIS.  
SHEINBAUM

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## Message Attributes

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